

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A communications system comprising:
 - 2 a plurality of communications devices communicating with each other over a network;
 - 4 a storage on said network storing location and presence information about system users, each of said plurality of communications devices being identifiable with at least one system user; and
 - 7 an identity context reminder service monitoring location and presence status for said plurality of communications devices and comparing said monitored location and presence status for inconsistencies with stored said location and presence information, said identity context reminder service selectively providing a reminder to respective communications device of said plurality of communications devices responsive to an inconsistency.
- 1 A communications system as in claim 1, further comprising a presence service receiving presence status from said plurality of communications devices and providing received said presence status to said identity context reminder service.
- 1 A communications system as in claim 2, wherein at least one said reminder indicates that said respective communications device is at a location other than a previously scheduled expected location.
- 1 A communications system as in claim 1, further comprising a location service receiving location status from said plurality of communications devices and providing received said location status to said identity context reminder service.
- 1 A communications system as in claim 4, wherein at least one said reminder indicates that an user identified to said respective communications device is at a location other than an expected location.

1 6. A communications system as in claim 1, further comprising a notification
2 service, said identity context reminder service identifying a selected one of said
3 plurality of communications devices and said notification service providing said
4 reminder to said selected one.

1 7. A communications system as in claim 6, wherein said notification service is a
2 text based messaging service.

1 8. A communications system as in claim 7, wherein said text based messaging
2 service is selected from the group consisting of e-mail, instant messaging and short
3 message service (SMS).

1 9. A communications system as in claim 1, further comprising an identity
2 context reminder client on at least one communications device of said plurality of
3 communications devices, said identity context reminder client facilitating managing
4 identity context reminder notifications from said at least one communications device.

1 10. A communications system as in claim 1, wherein said at least one of said
2 communications devices is a mobile station (MS) in a cellular phone network.

1 11. A communications system as in claim 1, wherein storage is a central storage
2 and said identity content service is located on a server with said central storage.

1 12. A method of maintaining location and presence status current in a
2 communications system including a plurality of communications devices networked
3 together, said method comprising the steps of:

- 4 a) storing location and presence information for a user identified with one
5 or more communications devices;
- 6 b) monitoring a plurality of communications devices for current location
7 and presence status;
- 8 c) comparing said current location and presence status to stored said
9 location and presence information to identify inconsistencies; and
- 10 d) sending a notification to a corresponding one of said one or more
11 communications devices.

1 13. A method as in claim 12, wherein said notification is provided as a text
2 message displayed by at least one of said one or more communications devices.

1 14. A method as in claim 12, further comprising the step of:
2 e) updating stored said location and presence information.

1 15. A method as in claim 14, wherein said one or more communications devices
2 are identified with a particular communications system user, location and presence
3 information for said particular communications system user being updated and
4 managed from said one or more communications devices.

1 16. A computer program product for sharing user location and presence status
2 amongst a plurality of users identified with communications devices networked
3 together in a communications system, said computer program product comprising a
4 computer usable medium having computer readable program code thereon, said
5 computer readable program code comprising:

6 computer program code means for storing location and presence information;

7 computer program code means for monitoring location and presence status for
8 a plurality of communications devices;

9 computer program code means for identifying inconsistencies between stored
10 said location and presence information and monitored said location and presence
11 status; and

12 computer program code means for providing notification of an identified
13 inconsistency to a corresponding communications device.

1 17. A computer program product for sharing user location and presence status as
2 in claim 16, wherein said computer program code means for providing notification
3 comprises computer program code means for sending text messages to selected ones
4 of said plurality of communications devices.

1 18. A computer program product for sharing user location and presence status as
2 in claim 17, wherein said text messages comprise e-mail, instant messages and short
3 message service (SMS) messages.

1 19. A computer program product for sharing user location and presence status as
2 in claim 16, further comprising computer program code means for receiving location
3 and presence updates from ones of said plurality of communications devices.

1 20. A computer program product for managing location and presence information
2 for a user associated with a communications device amongst a plurality of
3 communications devices networked together in a communications system, said
4 communications device providing location and presence information to said
5 communications system, said computer program product comprising a computer
6 usable medium having computer readable program code thereon, said computer
7 readable program code comprising:

8 computer program code means for providing location and presence status to a
9 location context reminder service;

10 computer program code means for indicating receipt of reminders, received
11 said reminders indicating inconsistencies between stored said location and presence
12 information and current said location and presence status; and

13 computer program code means for providing location and presence
14 information updates to said location context reminder service.

1 21. A computer program product for managing location and presence information
2 as in claim 20, wherein said computer program code means for indicating reminders
3 comprises computer program code means for text messaging.

1 22. A computer program product for managing location and presence information
2 as in claim 21, wherein said computer program code means for text messaging is
3 selected from a group consisting of:

4 computer program code means for sending and receiving e-mail;
5 computer program code means for instant messaging; and

6 computer program code means for sending and receiving short message
7 service (SMS) messages.

1 23. A computer program product for managing location and presence information
2 as in claim 22, wherein said computer program code means for indicating reminders
3 selects said computer program code means for text messaging from said group.

1 24. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of instructions,
2 the plurality of instructions including instructions which, when executed by a
3 processor, cause the processor to:

- 4 a) store location and presence information for a user identified with one
5 or more communications devices;
- 6 b) monitor a plurality of communications devices for current location and
7 presence status;
- 8 c) compare said current location and presence status to said stored said
9 location and presence information to identify inconsistencies; and
- 10 d) send a notification to a corresponding one of said one or more
11 communications devices.

1 25. A computer-readable medium as in claim 24, wherein said notification is
2 provided as a text message displayed by at least one of said one or more
3 communications devices.

1 26. A computer-readable medium as in claim 24, the plurality of instructions
2 further comprising the step of:
3 e) updating stored said location and presence information.